

Serial No.: 09/894,806

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Alan L. Greener, et al.
Serial No.: 09/894,806
Filed: June 28, 2001
Entitled: Room Temperature Stable
Competent Cells

Examiner: Marvich, M.

Group Art Unit: 1636

Conf. No.: 4116

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

This is responsive to the Non-Final Office Action mailed August 13, 2002 in the above-noted U.S. patent application. Kindly enter the following amendments and remarks.

In the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

- On page 11, replace the paragraph at lines 24-29 with the following replacement paragraph:

Additional methods of generating competent cells are described in: Kushner, In: *Genetic Engineering: Proceedings of the International Symposium on Genetic Engineering*, Elsevier, Amsterdam, pp. 17-23 (1978); Norgard, et al., *Gene* 3: 279-292 (1978); Jessee, et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,981,797; and on the world wide web at protocol-online.net/molbio/DNA/transformation.html, the entireties of which are incorporated by reference herein.

In the Claims:

Please replace claims 1, 22, 23 and 57 with amended claims 1, 22, 23 and 57 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for generating storage-stable competent cells, which comprises drying competent cells at a temperature greater than freezing so as to generate storage-

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